

**CITY OF OWOSSO  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2024  
7:30 P.M.  
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Robert J. Teich, Jr., Councilmembers Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, Emily S. Olson, and Nicholas L. Pidek.

**ABSENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika.

**ITEMS OF DISCUSSION**

**Special Assessments – Policies & Procedures**

Council held an in-depth discussion of the current policies and procedures governing special assessments and potential options for change. City Manager Nathan R. Henne gave an overview of the overall condition of the City's streets, how special assessments have been determined in the past, how they are currently determined, and how various practices and policies affect the funding available for street work. Street work is currently funded through Act 51 monies and leveraged by grant and bond funds when available. He noted that funding availability and construction cost increases will continue to hamper the City's street repair efforts going forward, resulting in an increase in the number of streets falling into the poor category. The EGLE requirement to replace all lead service lines will place further pressure on rising costs.

The Council searched for ways to obtain more funding and leverage the dollars it already has. There was discussion regarding novel construction methods, how other communities pay for street repairs, allocating more general fund monies to street repair, how the City Charter limits the millage the City can levy, and increasing the corner lot discount. Sadly, they came to the conclusion that there is no substantial pool of money available to the City for street work and the City is already taking advantage of all the leverage mechanisms currently available to it. The best option to get more work done going forward would be to periodically request another street bond. Said request will have to be timed to ensure the water and sewer funds have enough money to perform the necessary utilities work on the streets targeted for reconstruction.

The Council went on to discuss adjusting the discount given to corner lots. Councilmember Law suggested increasing the discount from 50% to 60%, bringing the assessment more in line with the market value of a corner lot. The Council will take action to implement this change the next time they consider a special assessment for street work.

**Master Plan Implementation Goals: 1.26, 3.4, 5.5, 5.21**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

There were no citizen comments.

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, May 2, 2024 – Budget Work Session, 6:00pm  
Monday, May 6, 2024 – Regular Meeting, 7:30pm

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS**

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2024  
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2025  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2024  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Fear for adjournment at 9:01 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilmember Law and concurred in by unanimous vote.

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Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor

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Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk